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## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY 1895.

To the Officers and Members of the Historical Society of Southern California.

The papers read cover a wide range of subjects, but nearly all of them treat of some phase of the history of the Pacific coast.

During the year past we have been compelled to give up our room on the fourth floor of the court house which we have had possession of since 1892. The increasing business of the county requiring more room, the supervisors could no longer allow us to occupy it. We have removed our collection to the balcony of Judge Van Dyke's court room on the third floor of the court house. On account of the limited space allowed us, we have been compelled to pack in boxes a considerable quantity of our books and papers, which renders them inaccessible for consultation or reference. Our means are too limited to secure more commodious quarters.

It is to be regretted that so many of our citizens who have become wealthy by the rapid growth of our city take so little interest in preserving its history. Our society was organized and has been built up by men of limited means. I doubt whether any other similar organization in the country has, with such limited means, done so much valuable work as ours has. During the twelve years of our existence as a society we have published nearly one thousand pages of historical matter, nearly all of it derived from original sources.

We distribute annually from three to four hundred copies of each issue of our yearly publications. These have a wide circulation in our own country. They are sent to historical, scientific and geographical societies, to public libraries, and to the leading colleges and universities. Our society has an honorable standing among the historical societies of the United States. We exchange publications with the leading historical and scientific societies in our own country, and have received applications for them from many foreign countries. Within the past year we have received requests for our publications from the Royal College of Belles-lettres of Stockholm, Sweden; from the Secretary of State, Dominion of Canada; from Sydney, New South Wales; from Auckland, New Zealand; and from Paris and London. All our publications previous to 1891 are out of print.

The work of packing and mailing our annual publications, sending notices of our monthly meetings, conducting the correspondence, receiving and labeling contributions, as well as keeping the minutes and records of the society, all devolve upon the secretary. These various duties take a great deal of time and labor for which no pecuniary renumeration is received or expected.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. Guinn, Secretary.